

charge of the detachment, while the Major and I were just observers. I had Major Lyerly follow behind the right flank of the 120th and I took the left flank, our object being to observe the work of our Engineer troops, their disposition by the Infantry Battalion commander, and how our officers conducted themselves. Our first call down was by Major-General Lewis, because Lieutenant Sill and Master Engineer Cahill did not have their steel helmets on. They had them with them but had not put them on. He stated that they should wear the equipment the order calls for. Our men had not considered that they were as yet in the problem and had not therefore put on the helmet. The General Staff raise considerable fuss if the men and officers under them do not strictly obey all orders and regulations, and they also claim that the officers must live up to the regulations as an example to the men; and yet General Lewis and every other Staff Officer watching the manoeuvres broke certain strict regulations regarding use of helmet and gas mask. It is particularly ordered that after leaving certain points on the roads going east, that the gas mask *shall* be worn in the "alert position" and that the "steel helmet" shall be worn. There are signs at these points on the roads, calling attention to these orders, and that "officers and men of *all* ranks shall wear the steel helmet, and the gas mask in the alert position," yet none of them did either. I have always been very strict with my men in regard to their living up to all orders regarding regulation dress and am known throughout the Division as an officer who does enforce these orders, and I am also very careful to observe them myself.

The Problem was carried out pretty well and our boys did their part O.K. They did not go with the first two lines, but were held back to put in the "strong points."

A Critique was held at 2 p.m. at Hospital Farm, which was again led by General Penny. No mention, however, was made of the Engineers. We all came home in the lorries, reaching camp about 4 p.m. rather tired and hungry. I found a note regarding invitation from General Godby to go with him to Foreway Camp at 28/A3b.9.5. at Barnes Farm or Camp, where he was to present one of the Royal Engineer men with the "Medal of Valour." I phoned an acceptance and then had a bite to eat, took a bath, changed my clothes, and was ready at 5:30 p.m. when the General called for me in his car. I also made final arrangements about selecting seven squads of our